Margin money assistance under REGP

Sl. No	Category of beneficiary	Project cost	Margin money assistance
1.	General	Upto Rs. 10 lakh	25 per cent of project cost
2.	SC/ST/Women/Ex-servicemen/NE Region/ Hill areas	Upto Rs. 10 lakh	30 per cent of project cost
3.	General	Rs. 10 lakh and Upto Rs. 25 lakh	Rs. 2.5 lakh + 10 percent of balance project cost.
4.	SC/ST/Women/Ex-servicemen/NE Region/Hill areas	Rs. 10 lakh and upto Rs. 25 lakh	Rs. 3 lakh + 10 per cent of balance project cost.

NOTE: SC/ST-Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe; NE-North Eastern

The projects under the REGP are sanctioned after due approval by the banks.

(b) Government does not provide funds for running industries under the REGP. It provides a capital subsidy at the time of setting up the project. Under the REGP loan is sanctioned by the banks to the entrepreneurs after due appraisal of the project report prepared by him, which, *inter alia*, takes into account the beneficiary's contribution and also his capacity to provide the working capital to run the project. Funds are released by the bank after appraisal. Hence, the question of release of insufficient funds by the Government does not arise.

(c) During 2003-04, 24747 projects were set up under the REGP throughout the country. A sum of Rs. 281.75 crore was released by the Government under the REGP during this period.

PMRY in Maharashtra

1436. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Govenment have recently rseviewed performance of on-going projects under the Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Yojana in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry have set any target for generating more employment opportunities in Maharashtra State under this scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The performance under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) in Maharashtra was reviewed in March and May, 2004. During 2001-02 to 2003-04, against the target of 78,350 self-employment units, loans were disbursed to 52,394 self-employment units (provisional), with estimated employment generation for 78,591 persons in Maharashtra under this Yojana.

(c) and (d) Against the target of 22,800 self-employment units during 2003-04, the target under the PMRY for Maharashtra State during 2004-2005 is 39,000 units.

Preservation of fruits and vegetables

†1437. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bhabha Atomic Research Centre has developed a technique of long lasting preservation of fruits, vegetables and cereals; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) has developed and installed a plant using the irradiation technique for the preservation of fruits, vegetables and cereals.

The technological benefits that can be achieved by the radiation processing of food are as follows:

(i) Disinfestations of insect pests in stored products.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.